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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN LIBERIA

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part II)

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahbub KABIR (Bangladesh)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 166 appear in the report of the Committee contained in document A/48/827.

2. At its 52nd and 56th meetings, on 16 and 28 March 1994, the Fifth Committee considered the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia". Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/48/SR.52 and 56).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/48/L.52

3. At the 56th meeting, on 28 March 1994, the representative of Morocco, on behalf of the Chairman of the Fifth Committee, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia" (A/C.5/48/L.52).

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/48/L.52 without a vote (see para. 5).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

5. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 856 (1993) of 10 August 1993, by which the Council welcomed the signing under the auspices of the Economic Community of West African States, on 25 July 1993, at Cotonou, Benin, of a peace agreement between the contending parties to the conflict, and by which the Council approved the dispatch by the Secretary-General to Liberia of an advance team of thirty military observers to participate in the work of the Joint Cease-fire Monitoring Committee for a period of three months,

Bearing in mind also that the Security Council, by its resolution 866 (1993) of 22 September 1993, established the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia under its authority and under the direction of the Secretary-General through his Special Representative for a period of seven months,

Recalling its decision 48/478 of 23 December 1993 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia,

Reaffirming that the costs of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Liberian peace process by certain Governments,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

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1/ A/48/592.

2/ A/48/900.

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia as at 24 March 1994, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 26,411,962 United States dollars;

2. Expresses concern about the deteriorating financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments, particularly Member States in arrears;

3. Reaffirms its resolution 48/227 of 23 December 1993 and stresses the need for the Secretariat to present budget documents on time in order to allow for a proper and thorough review and approval by the General Assembly of these budgets before their implementation;

4. Reaffirms also the importance of the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as an advisory body to the General Assembly in the budget process;

5. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 2/ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that all United Nations activities related to the Liberian peace process, including the upcoming elections, are administered in a coordinated fashion with a maximum of efficiency and economy and, in particular, to implement fully the economy, financial and efficiency measures to be approved during the resumed forty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with relevant mandates of the Security Council;

7. Urges those Member States who have not paid their assessed contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia to do so promptly and in full;

8. Affirms that it expects that the Secretariat will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that the General Assembly is not asked to take any future decisions on budgets for peace-keeping operations retroactively;

9. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account referred to in General Assembly decision 48/478 an amount of 32,797,100 United States dollars gross (32,225,100 dollars net), authorized and apportioned in accordance with General Assembly decision 48/478, for the maintenance of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia from 22 September 1993 to 21 April 1994;

10. Decides also, with regard to the period beyond 21 April 1994, to authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments at a monthly rate not to exceed 4,359,100 dollars gross (4,232,900 dollars net), for a period of three months, in connection with the maintenance of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia, should the Security Council decide to continue the Mission beyond that date, and that the amount of 7,520,900 dollars gross (7,355,700 dollars net) be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its

resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992 and decision 48/472 of 23 December 1993, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1992, 1993 and 1994 as set out in Assembly resolutions 46/221 A of 20 December 1991 and 48/223 A of 23 December 1993 and decision 47/456 of 23 December 1992;

11. Decides further that, there shall be set off against the assessments on Member States for the maintenance of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia beyond 21 April 1994 an amount of 7,520,900 dollars gross (7,355,700 dollars net), representing the balance of the apportionment made in accordance with General Assembly decision 48/478;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to present the performance report for the mandate period ending 21 April 1994 and the budget estimates corresponding to any new mandate period the Security Council may decide on, no later than 30 June 1994;

13. Invites voluntary contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly;

14. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia".